

work and dedication. I join her family, friends, and the community of Calvert in celebrating this momentous occasion. I wish her more years of happiness, fulfillment, and health.

Congratulations to Ms. Parish on her centennial birthday milestone. I am honored to represent citizens like her in the 17th District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF SHADY BROOK

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the Rotary Club's motto—Service Above Self—is personified by its membership and the causes they support. The Rotary Club of Shady Brook is acknowledged as a major, local contributor over the past 10 years for raising more than \$100,000 for worthy causes and donating over 7,500 hours of members' time. The Rotary Club is further distinguished by a membership with an average age of 75 years, coupled with a lifetime of experience and skills generously shared with many benefactors. The list is endless and inspiring and includes medical research and prevention programs, meal delivery to patients, forums for veterans and their families, time and money to the Guardians of the National Cemetery at Washington Crossing, the National Guard, books for libraries, clothing and school supplies for poverty-stricken children, and participating in Pennsylvania's Adopt-a-Highway maintenance program. Heartiest congratulations on the 10th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Shady Brook, and thank you to the founders and members for outstanding contributions to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPT. WILL CANNON AND CAPT. JONATHAN MAULDEN

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Capt. Will Cannon and Capt. Jonathan Maulden of Cabarrus County EMS who took home the top prize at the 2016 Carolina's Paramedic Competition in Greenville, SC on October 15, 2016. The duo of Cannon and Maulden faced eleven other teams from North Carolina and South Carolina as they competed in two medical emergency scenarios.

Established in 1997, the Carolina Competition pits the best of the best EMS teams against each other as they showcase their ability to respond to complex scenarios. As the competition has grown, the teams have gotten stronger and the competition has been recognized as the gold standard for these types of first responder events. This year's contest was no exception, making Cannon and Maulden's victory even more impressive.

By winning this year's competition, Capts. Cannon and Maulden are taking home their second top prize having already won in 2014.

This also marks the third occasion when a team from Cabarrus County EMS has won the event. Capt. Cannon and Capt. Maulden have made their department proud and are extremely deserving of this recognition. I am extremely grateful that our community is fortunate enough to have such great public servants who truly excel in their fields.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Capt. Will Cannon and Capt. Jonathan Maulden on winning this impressive distinction and wishing them well as they continue to serve the people of Cabarrus County.

RECOGNIZING ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL'S CENTENNIAL

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral and the occasion of their centennial celebration.

In 1916, Greek immigrants arriving to the Lehigh Valley integrated themselves into the fabric of American life through employment in many industries, including Bethlehem Steel and other local businesses. At the same time, these early immigrants recognized a need to preserve their religion, language, and customs. Accordingly, they purchased the former St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Bethlehem and established their own church. By the 1930s, their community was growing, and families began to settle permanently in the area.

While World War II disrupted the lives of many families within the congregation, its young members returned home upon its resolution to enter the workforce in professions such as teachers, engineers, doctors, lawyers, or within their family businesses. Due to this successful growth, the community realized that it would need a larger place of worship to accommodate their expanding families.

In 1962, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral moved to its new location at 1607 West Union Boulevard in Bethlehem where it remains to this day. With this move, the congregation also constructed a new school and auditorium. Continued growth through the 1990s necessitated the hiring of a second full time priest to meet the needs of their members. Today, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral continues to embrace the surrounding community through Greek food festivals, picnics, and other exciting events.

As St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral reflects upon its impressive accomplishments of the last century, I wish them all the best as they look forward to serving their community in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 70TH AN- NIVERSARY OF RELLES FLORIST

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Relles Florist, which has served the

Sacramento region for the past 70 years. As family and friends gather to celebrate its 70th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Relles Florist's contributions to the Sacramento community.

In 1946, Ross and Margaret Relles created a family business that quickly became a Sacramento icon and a cornerstone of the Sacramento business community. As anyone who has shopped there knows, Relles is legendary for creating beautiful floral arrangements that are, quite simply, works of art. Its flowers have helped mark major life events for generations of Sacramentans. The business's success is a testament to the quality of its flowers, the industriousness of its employees, and the dedication the Relles family has to its craft.

Relles is also an important fixture in Sacramento's local community. The President of Relles Florist, Jim Relles, lends his skills and expertise to numerous boards and community organizations. Jim's community service includes stints on the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Rotary Club and of the California State University, Sacramento Alumni Association. Jim was also President of the California State Floral Association and President of the Sacramento Host Lions Club. His leadership is a big reason why Relles Florist has enjoyed so much success.

As a family-owned business, Relles Florist knows first-hand the importance of family and community in achieving commercial prosperity. Mr. Speaker, as the Relles family celebrates seventy years of accomplishments and contributions to our Sacramento community, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring them.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,805,366,357,023.77. We've added \$9,178,489,308,110.69 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I missed a vote during a vote series on September 28, 2016. Had my vote been recorded for Roll Call 572, final passage on H.R. 5303, the Water Resources Development Act of 2016, I would have voted YES.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH PAS-
TORAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FAITH CENTER MINISTRIES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate The Faith Center Ministries as they celebrate their 25th anniversary. In 1985, the Fernandez family began a journey of faith that directed them to South Florida. Six years later in 1991, Pastors Henry and Carol Fernandez founded the Plantation Worship Center, later to be named The Faith Center Ministries. They began with 11 members in a school cafeteria, now they host over 10,000 members in the former Sunrise Musical Theater.

For 25 years, The Faith Center Ministries have empowered people to live a lifestyle of faith everyday. The church is dedicated to reaching the world of Jesus Christ by empowering the teachings of faith, hope, salvation and the proclamation that Jesus Christ is Lord, the Son of God the Father, and the Head of the church.

The Faith Center Ministries operates numerous social enterprises in order to train leaders, help believers discover their true purpose, and develop individual potential through spiritual maturity. To accomplish this, The Faith Center Ministries, under the leadership of Henry and Carol Fernandez, hosts bible studies, conferences, seminars, trainings, and educational development at the University of Fort Lauderdale and the Henry B. Fernandez Institute for Biblical Studies. The Faith Center Ministries provides a place where the hurting, depressed, frustrated, and confused can find love, acceptance, help, hope, forgiveness, guidance and encouragement.

Mr. Speaker, I want offer my most sincere congratulations and heartfelt gratitude to The Faith Center Ministries Pastors Henry and Carol Fernandez, their staff, and volunteers for all that they do each and every single day for our community. I am truly honored to call them my friends, and be their representative in Congress.

HONORING RICH CURTOLA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of Vallejo's greatest champions, Rich Curtola, upon his retirement from the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce.

A Vallejo native, Mr. Curtola has been a member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce since 1975 and is retiring after six years with the Chamber's leadership, including four as President and CEO. Rich has been instrumental in our community's economic recovery following the Great Recession of 2008 and has worked diligently to grow the Chamber's presence in our community. During his tenure as President and CEO, Rich has improved the Chamber's community relations, increased membership and secured a permanent home

for the Chamber. He also led the Chamber as it took on important community projects such as hosting the annual 4th of July parade.

Throughout his lifetime of service to our city, Mr. Curtola has drawn on his unwavering optimism in Vallejo's future to make our community a better place to live, work, start a business and raise a family. Mr. Curtola's legacy is one of unrivaled devotion and knowledge of the city we all love, so much so that the name Curtola has become synonymous with Vallejo.

Mr. Speaker, Rich Curtola has dedicated his time and expertise to serving our community and ensuring Vallejo's economic success. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORABLE BILL KRISTOFF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bill Kristoff as he retires from service on the West Sacramento City Council. As his wife Brenda, family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate his public career, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Kristoff for almost three decades as a public servant.

Mr. Kristoff served two years in the U.S. Army before receiving his Bachelor's degree at Sacramento State University. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service for almost four decades, retiring in 2002. Mr. Kristoff is the only original sitting member of the West Sacramento City Council, first elected in 1987. He also served for single-year terms as mayor in 1990, 1996, and 2001 and served as mayor pro tem in 2010.

As a lifelong West Sacramento resident, Mr. Kristoff has contributed to his city in many ways. His top priorities were flood protection, security of West Sacramento's levees, and the city's infrastructure generally. Mr. Kristoff represented the city on the West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency Joint Powers Authority and the Regional Water Authority. During his tenure on the council, West Sacramento underwent notable additions, including the creation of the Bryte Bend Water Treatment Plant, River Walk Park, Raley Field and the River Cats, the widening of the Harbor Boulevard interchange, the Daniel C. Palamidessi Bridge, the West Sacramento City Hall, and the revitalization of West Capitol Avenue.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Bill Kristoff as he is celebrated for his service to the City of West Sacramento. I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing his outstanding work in providing the West Sacramento community with his invaluable services and contributions and wishing him the best in his retirement.

GOING FARVE, GOING DEEP . . .
MISSISSIPPI MAGIC SO VERY
SWEET

HON. REID J. RIBBLE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Brett Favre who was inducted into The NFL's Hall of Fame this past summer. I include in the RECORD this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell.

Going Favre
Going deep
Mississippi Magic So Very Sweet
All in what our hearts choose to seek
How high will we reach
While, against all odds to slay The Grid Iron
God's and all their records to beat
But the greatest of all,
is but a World Championship to seek
While, in our hearts all our dreams we so keep
Because, on those fields of green only the
stoutest of all hearts can compete
And make it to the Hall of Fame as a dream
few of us will ever complete
Like the wild wild west,
Brett was like a gun slinger at high noon
who stood at his best
Who upon defenses such havoc would wreak
Who drew first and drew fast as touchdowns
he'd seek
As it was always high noon to defeat,
yea your up the creek
While, over the NFL such a large shadow
casting each week
And everyday with his heart of a child and
his smile to all hearts would speak
As it all began with a football in hand,
and his Father's Love helping his son to map
out his future plan.
And a mother behind him would stand
To build the foundation for all of his dreams,
as one day at Lambeau Field he'd proudly
wear that Packer green
As that number "4" one day would walk
through The Hall of Fame's door
Going Farve and Going Deep with his Mis-
sissippi Magic,
he went farther than all the others before
him had reached
Brett Favre, a gun slinger standing six foot
two
a good old boy from the south armed with a
cannon who threw
Like a country song his life was so true
And he could run like a stallion in the open
field too
Like a river boat gambler he threw with
such heat,
which made all of those defenses so weep
Beating you with his arm,
his feet,
his heart,
brain,
and soul so very deep
A leader among men who knew not defeat
An Iron Man with a 297 consecutive games as
that record he'd reach
Mr. MVP, Mr. All Pro,
from Southern Miss to NFL bliss,
bringing his heat one day to rise to the top
of the NFL's list
But his love of the game was what really to
his heart beseeched
But the greatest pass he'd complete,
was marring his high school sweetheart
Deanna so sweet
As a Warrior,
and a Fighter
a Come Back Kid who in the darkest of
games came back even brighter
Like Bart he too became a Starr,